

April 3, 2014

The Honorable Tim Johnson  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Military Construction,  
Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies  
Senate Appropriations Committee  
Senate Dirksen Building, 122  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mark Kirk  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Military Construction,  
Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies  
Senate Appropriations Committee  
Senate Hart Building, 125  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Johnson and Ranking Member Kirk:

As the subcommittee begins its consideration of an appropriation bill for the agencies and accounts within the jurisdiction of the Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies, I respectfully request support for the programs listed below.

**1. Title:** Emergency Power Plant Fuel Storage, Clear Air Force Station

**Program Element Number:** 31476

**Project Number:** 1596/DXEB133001

**Program Description:** Construct four 60,000 gallon diesel fuel tanks in below-grade, concrete vaults with piping and pumps to connect to emergency diesel-generators to support 30 day emergency operations mission requirement. Install interior and exterior security fencing and perimeter road to meet security requirements and include all necessary lighting, trenching, and related infrastructure. Construct access roads to provide fuel loading access, Entry Control, and parking. The fuel delivery/offloading point will include receipt hose connections and piping. Relocate drainage pond out of construction area.

**Support Fiscal Year 2015 President's Budget Request:** \$11.5 million

**Budget Account:** Military Construction

**Recipient:** Air Force

**Rationale:** The existing fuel farm cannot support the mission requirement for 30 days of operation. Fencing does not meet current security requirements and constrains the solid State Phased Array Radar (SSPARS) site too much to construct the required fuel tanks and expanded Missile Defense Agency and Enhanced Polar Systems activities.

I also support the following administrative legislative provision requested by the Department of Defense: *SEC. 101. None of the funds made available in this title shall be expended for payments under a cost-plus-a-fixed-fee contract for construction, where cost estimates exceed \$25,000, to be performed within the United States, except Alaska, without the specific approval in writing of the Secretary of Defense setting forth the reasons therefor.*

Chairman Johnson and Ranking Member Kirk

April 3, 2014

Page 2

Finally, I respectfully request full support for the Department of Veterans Affairs Fiscal Year 2015 budget request, which provides necessary funding to support our veterans' health care, transition to civilian life and other services our country owes them.

Thank you for your consideration of these requests. Please do not hesitate to contact my staff member, Lindsay Kavanaugh, at (202) 224-1924 for additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mark Begich", is positioned above the printed name.

Mark Begich  
United States Senator